

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/787,035

Examiner

Sandra Saucier

Applicant(s)

VOURNAKIS ET AL.

Art Unit

1651

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendments and arguments filed 3/21/07 and acceptance of the attached examiner's amendment.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 25-36.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

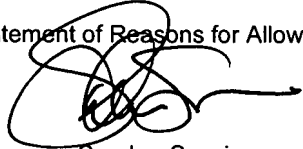
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/21/07
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


Sandra Saucier
Primary Examiner
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EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Muna Abushaer on 5/18/07.

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-6, 8-24 are cancelled.

New claims 25-36 have been introduced.

25. A gel composition produced *ex vivo* by the process of combining platelet rich plasma, a solution containing a calcium salt, and a slurry of biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine fibers derived from microalgae to form a gel.

26. The composition of claim 25 wherein the platelet rich plasma and fiber slurry are mixed in a volume ratio of 50:50.

27. The composition of claim 25 wherein the fiber slurry comprises 1 mg of fiber per 5 mls of distilled water or 0.9% NaCl solution.

28. The composition of claim 25 wherein the calcium salt is CaCl_2 .

29. The composition of claim 25 wherein the composition further comprises an additive for platelet preservation.

30. The composition of claim 25 wherein the fiber slurry comprises 2 mg fiber per 1.0 ml of a 0.9% NaCl solution.

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31. The composition of claim 25 wherein the composition is a pharmaceutical composition.

32. A method for accelerating wound healing in a patient in need thereof comprising administering the composition of claim 25 to a wound.

33. The method of claim 32 wherein the platelet rich plasma is derived from the patient.

34. A method of reducing hemostasis time of a wound in a patient in need thereof comprising: administering to the wound the composition of claim 25.

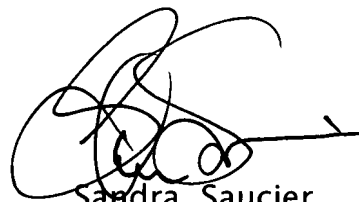
35. The method of claim 34 wherein the platelet rich plasma is derived from the patient.

36. A method for producing the composition of claim 25 comprising mixing *ex vivo* platelet rich plasma, a solution containing a calcium salt, and a slurry of biocompatible poly- β -1 \rightarrow 4-N-acetylglucosamine fibers derived from microalgae, in amounts effective to elicit formation of a gel.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sandra Saucier whose telephone number is (571) 272-0922. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, M. Wityshyn can be reached on (571) 272-0926. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sandra Saucier', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Sandra Saucier
Primary Examiner
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May 19, 2007